

**Question for written answer E-003544/2026
to the Commission**

Rule 144

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Subject: The disappearance of CD players from newly produced vehicles

While CD sales are currently showing signs of growth, many consumers have expressed frustration at the disappearance of CD players from new vehicles. At the same time, the European automotive market appears to be moving towards the full digitalisation of music and entertainment media.

In addition to cultural disadvantages, including discrimination of smaller languages, limited access to rarer titles and potentially lower incomes for artists, this development also raises legitimate road safety concerns, as navigating through infotainment system touchscreens may cause greater visual and cognitive distraction than operating the vehicle controls.

Against this backdrop, concerns have been raised about the unintended consequences of the EU General Safety Regulation II (GSR II). In particular, its implementation has contributed to the discontinuation of certain equipment, including CD players, affecting the marketability of vehicles still equipped with such systems.

1. Does the Commission intend to assess whether, and to what extent, GSR II has contributed to the disappearance of CD players from new vehicles?
2. Was this an intended or foreseeable consequence of GSR II?
3. Does the Commission intend to ensure that consumers can retain a CD player as an optional feature when acquiring a new vehicle, including by amending GSR II?

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